

IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) A stowable seat for a vehicle comprising:
a seat receiving recess in the floor;
a seat and a leg operatively attaching the seat to the floor for selective movement of the seat with respect to the seat receiving recess between a deployed position of the seat and a stowed position of the seat in the seat receiving recess;
the leg having an upper pivot operatively attached to the seat and a lower pivot operatively attached to the floor for selective pivoting movement of the seat between the deployed and the stowed positions of the seat by pivoting the seat about the upper pivot and pivoting the leg about the lower pivot between a substantially vertical deployed position of the leg and a substantially horizontal stowed position of the leg~~The stowable seating apparatus of claim 1,~~ wherein the seat is selectively movable about said lower pivot in a transverse direction with respect to the seat receiving recess.

3. (Currently Amended) The stowable ~~seating apparatus~~ of claim 2 wherein the seat is movable about said lower pivot between a first transverse position of the seat whereat the seat cannot be pivoted into the seat receiving recess and a second transverse position of the seat whereat the seat can be pivoted into the seat receiving recess.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The stowable seating apparatus of claim 24 wherein the seat does not extend above is substantially flush with the floor surface when the seat is stowed in the seat receiving recess in the floor.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The stowable seating apparatus of claim 6~~ A stowable seat for a vehicle comprising:

a seat receiving recess in the floor;

a seat having a leg operatively attaching the seat to the floor for selective movement of the seat with respect to the seat receiving recess between a deployed position of the seat, an intermediate position of the seat, and a stowed position of the seat;

the leg having an upper pivot operatively attached to the seat and a lower pivot operatively attached to the floor for selective movement of the leg between a deployed position of the leg and a stowed position of the leg, wherein the seat is selectively movable about said lower pivot in a transverse direction with respect to the seat receiving recess;

the leg in the substantially vertical deployed position of the leg supporting the seat in both the deployed position and intermediate positions of the seat, with the seat extending substantially perpendicular to the leg in the deployed position of the seat, and

the seat extending substantially parallel to the leg in the intermediate position of the seat;
the seat being operatively attached to the upper pivot of the leg for selective
movement with respect to both the seat receiving recess and the leg, between the
deployed position of the seat, whereat the seat extends substantially perpendicular to the
leg with the leg in the deployed position of the leg, and the intermediate position of the
seat whereat the seat extends substantially parallel to the leg with the leg in the deployed
position of the leg;
the seat selectively movable between the intermediate position of the seat and the
stowed position of the seat by pivoting the seat about the lower pivot of the leg.

8. (Currently Amended) The stowable seating apparatus of claim 7 wherein the seat cushion with the foldable back attached thereto ~~are~~ is operatively attached to the leg and floor for translating movement about said lower pivot in a transverse direction with respect to the seat receiving recess, between a first transverse position of the seat whereat the seat cannot be pivoted into the seat receiving recess and a second transverse position of the seat whereat the seat can be pivoted into the seat receiving recess.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The stowable seating apparatus of claim 8 wherein the lower pivot includes a locking mechanism for ~~holding~~ locking the leg against being pivoted about the lower pivot from the deployed position of the leg when the seat is in the first transverse position of the seat, and ~~allowing~~ wherein said locking mechanism

further allows the leg to be pivoted about said lower pivot into the stowed position of the leg when the seat is in the second transverse position of the seat.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The stowable seating apparatus of claim 8~~ A stowable seating apparatus for a vehicle having a floor defining a floor surface, the seating apparatus comprising:

a seat receiving recess in the floor, extending downward from the floor surface and opening upward through the floor surface; and

a seat having a seat cushion, a foldable seat back, and a leg operatively attaching the seat cushion to the floor for selective movement of the seat with respect to the seat receiving recess between a deployed position of the seat, an intermediate position of the seat, and a stowed position of the seat;

the seat cushion having an upper surface for receiving the buttocks of a passenger when the seat is in the deployed position, and a lower surface facing the floor surface when the seat is in the deployed position;

the foldable seat back pivotably attached to the seat cushion to be foldable upon the upper surface of the seat cushion to a folded position of the seat back, and openable to an open position of the seat back for supporting the back of a passenger seated upon the cushion;

the leg having an upper pivot operatively attached to the lower surface of the seat cushion and a lower pivot operatively attached to the floor for selective movement of the leg between a substantially vertical deployed position of the leg and a substantially horizontal stowed position of the leg, with the leg in the substantially horizontal stowed

position extending into the seat receiving recess in a direction substantially parallel to the floor surface, wherein the seat is operatively attached to the leg and floor for translating movement about said lower pivot in a transverse direction with respect to the seat receiving recess, between a first transverse position of the seat whereat the seat cannot be pivoted into the seat receiving recess and a second transverse position of the seat whereat the seat can be pivoted into the seat receiving recess::

the leg in the substantially vertical deployed position of the leg supporting the seat cushion in both the deployed position and intermediate positions of the seat, with the seat cushion extending substantially perpendicular to the leg in the deployed position of the seat, and the seat cushion extending substantially parallel to the leg in the intermediate position of the seat;

the seat cushion being operatively attached to the upper pivot of the leg for selective movement with respect to both the seat receiving recess and the leg, between the deployed position of the seat, whereat the seat cushion extends substantially perpendicular to the leg with the leg in the deployed position of the leg and the seat back in either the open or the folded position, and the intermediate position of the seat whereat the seat cushion with the seat back folded thereupon extends substantially parallel to the leg with the leg in the deployed position of the leg;

the seat selectively movable between the intermediate position of the seat and the stowed position of the seat within the seat receiving recess by pivoting the seat about the lower pivot of the leg; and

wherein the upper pivot includes a locking mechanism for locking the seat cushion against being pivoted about the upper pivot when the seat cushion is a first

transverse position of the seat-cushion with respect to the leg, and ~~allowing wherein said locking mechanism further allows the seat-cushion to be pivoted about the upper pivot when the seat cushion is in a second transverse position of the seat-cushion with respect to the leg.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The stowable seating apparatus of claim 76 wherein ~~the leg, seat back and seat cushion do not extend above~~ are substantially flush with the floor surface when the seat is stowed in the seat receiving recess in the floor.

13. (Currently Amended) The stowable seating apparatus of claim 76 further comprising a cover for closing the seat receiving recess, the cover ~~having an upper surface thereof extending substantially parallel to the floor surface when the cover is closing the seat receiving recess.~~

14. (Currently Amended) ~~The stowable seating apparatus of claim 6~~ A stowable seating apparatus for a vehicle having a floor defining a floor surface, the seating apparatus comprising:

a seat receiving recess in the floor, extending downward from the floor surface and opening upward through the floor surface; and

a seat having a seat cushion, a foldable seat back, and a leg operatively attaching the seat cushion to the floor for selective movement of the seat with respect to the seat receiving recess between a deployed position of the seat, an intermediate position of the seat, and a stowed position of the seat;

the seat cushion having an upper surface for receiving the buttocks of a passenger when the seat is in the deployed position, and a lower surface facing the floor surface when the seat is in the deployed position;

the foldable seat back pivotably attached to the seat cushion to be foldable upon the upper surface of the seat cushion to a folded position of the seat back, and openable to an open position of the seat back for supporting the back of a passenger seated upon the cushion;

the leg having an upper pivot operatively attached to the lower surface of the seat cushion and a lower pivot operatively attached to the floor for selective movement of the leg between a substantially vertical deployed position of the leg and a substantially horizontal stowed position of the leg, with the leg in the substantially horizontal stowed position extending into the seat receiving recess in a direction substantially parallel to the floor surface;

the leg in the substantially vertical deployed position of the leg supporting the seat cushion in both the deployed position and intermediate positions of the seat, with the seat cushion extending substantially perpendicular to the leg in the deployed position of the seat, and the seat cushion extending substantially parallel to the leg in the intermediate position of the seat;

the seat cushion being operatively attached to the upper pivot of the leg for selective movement with respect to both the seat receiving recess and the leg, between the deployed position of the seat, whereat the seat cushion extends substantially perpendicular to the leg with the leg in the deployed position of the leg and the seat back in either the open or the folded position, and the intermediate position of the seat whereat

the seat cushion with the seat back folded thereupon extends substantially parallel to the leg with the leg in the deployed position of the leg;

the seat selectively movable between the intermediate position of the seat and the stowed position of the seat within the seat receiving recess by pivoting the seat about the lower pivot of the leg; and

~~further comprising~~ a second leg pivotably attached to the lower surface of the seat cushion for movement between a deployed position of the second leg, whereat the second leg extends substantially perpendicular to the seat cushion for supporting the seat cushion on the floor when the seat is in the deployed position, and a stowed position of the second leg, whereat the second leg extends substantially parallel to the seat cushion.

15. (Currently Amended) The stowable seating apparatus of claim 14 wherein the leg, second leg, seat back and seat cushion ~~do not extend above~~ are substantially flush with the floor surface when the seat is stowed in the seat receiving recess in the floor.

16. (Original) The stowable seating apparatus of claim 14 further comprising a helper link operatively connected between the leg and the second leg for pivoting the second leg from the stowed position of the second leg to the deployed position of the second leg as the seat is pivoted from the intermediate position to the deployed position of the seat, and for pivoting the second leg from the deployed position of the second leg to the stowed position of the second leg as the seat is pivoted from the deployed position to the intermediate position of the seat.

17. (Currently Amended) The stowable seating apparatus of claim 16 wherein the leg, second leg, helper link, seat back and seat cushion ~~do not extend above~~are substantially flush with the floor surface when the seat is stowed in the seat receiving recess in the floor.

18. (Original) The stowable seating apparatus of claim 14 further comprising:
a seat anchorage in the floor for receipt of the second leg in the deployed position of the second leg; and

a releasable latch attached to a distal end of the second leg for engaging the seat anchorage when the second leg is in the deployed position of the second leg.

19. (Canceled).